

28 April 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Planning Division
National Security Resources Board

SUBJECT : Proposed Ad Hoc Committee on Definition

1. While working on problems connected with sabotage, subversive activities, and the capabilities of Communist Parties to plan and carry out such activities, considerable difficulty was experienced in reaching uniform conclusions even though the basic source material being analysed was generally the same. One of the fundamental causes of confusion was the lack of agreed working definitions of the terms used.

2. In view of the number of agencies concerned with the analysis of sabotage capabilities and in view of the increasing attention that will have to be given to this intelligence field, it is proposed

- (a) That an ad hoc committee be set up to examine the problem of definition.
- (b) That this committee be instructed to secure the views of interested agencies and to attempt to reach a set of agreed definitions for common use within the field.
- (c) That such definitions, when approved by proper authority, should be made standard for analysts, and should remain standard until such time as it is considered advisable to re-examine them in the light of the developing situation.

25X1A 3. It is accordingly suggested that the addressed agencies each appoint a member to serve on an ad hoc committee under the chairmanship of [REDACTED] of CIA/ORE (Code 143, extension 2869), and that these appointments be made and the committee called together not later than Monday, 16 May 1949.

25X1A 4. It is further suggested that this committee prepare its own agenda within the broad term of reference stated in paragraph 2 (b).

ORE: [REDACTED] :fab
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